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**Subject:** [External] State should NOT Approve Fracked Gas Pipeline

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Honorable Governor Cooper:

The ACP would be a huge step backward in the fight against climate change, and there are many indications that it would be an [economic tragedy](#) as well.

Despite the claims of climate-change deniers, colder winters do not refute global warming, they reflect it. Scientists explain that a loss of arctic ice caused by a warming atmosphere weakens wind patterns that normally keep the arctic air mass farther north. That change allows arctic air to come farther south, thus the record lows in North Carolina even as the overall atmosphere is warming. That brings us to the irony of Duke Energy citing the blast of extra cold air as a reason to increase the burning of fossil fuels that cause global warming.

The 600-mile Atlantic Coast Pipeline will originate in West Virginia, travel through Virginia and then continue south into eastern North Carolina, ending in Robeson County. That pipeline advocates focus on a short-term issue – a spike in natural gas prices – is part of a broader failure to respond to long-term patterns. And the failure is especially true of Duke Energy, the nation's largest electric utility, and Dominion Energy of Virginia, a partner in proposing the pipeline.

The pipeline would help Duke Energy to build new natural gas-powered plants and perhaps create more industrial customers for the utility. That will help Duke Energy's stockholders now, but it's not a sound approach to tomorrow. The future is in alternative energy, much of it generated on site. Building pipelines and natural gas plants that transport fuels and electricity over long distances is a path back to the 20th century.

Please do not allow this pipeline to come to NC.

Best regards,

Daniel Bossut

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